

VIR

4. Unjustly assailant; murderous.
Some violent hands were laid on Humphry's life. *Shakefp.*
A foe subtle or violent. *Milton.*
5. Unfeignably vehement.
We might be reckoned fierce and violent, to tear away that, which, if our mouths did condemn, our consciences would form and repine thereat. *Hooker.*
The covetous extortioner should remember, that such violent shall not take heaven, but hell by force. *Deay of Pity.*
6. Extorted; not voluntary.
Vows made in pain, are violent and void. *Milton.*
- VIOLENTLY. *adv.* [from *violent*.] With force; forcibly; vehemently.
Temp'rately proceed to what you would
Thus violently redress. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
Flame burneth more violently towards the sides, than in the midst. *Bacon.*
Ancient privileges must not, without great necessities, be revoked, nor forfeitures be exacted violently, nor penal laws urged rigorously. *Taylor's Rule of living holy.*
- VIOLET. *n. f.* [*violante*, Fr. *viola*, Lat.] A plant.
It hath a polypetalous anomalous flower, somewhat resembling the papilionaceous flower; for its two upper petals represent the standard, the two side ones the wings; but the lower one, which ends in a tail, resembles the iris. Out of the empalement arises the pointal, which becomes a three-cornered fruit opening into three parts, and full of roundish seeds. There are nine species. *Miller.*
When daisies pied, and violets blue,
Do paint the meadows much bedight. *Shakefp.*
Sweet echo, sweetest nymph that liv'st unseen,
By flow Meander's margent green,
And in the violet-embroider'd vale. *Milton.*
It alters not our simple idea, whether we think that blue be in the violet itself, or in our mind only; and only the power of producing it by the texture of its parts, to be in the violet itself. *Locke.*
- VIOLIN. *n. f.* [*violon*, Fr. from *viol*.] A fiddle; a stringed instrument of music.
Praise with timbrels, organs, flutes;
Praise with violins, and lutes. *Sandys.*
Sharp violins proclaim
Their jealous pangs, and desperation,
For the fair disdainful dame. *Dryden.*
- VIOLIST. *n. f.* [from *viol*.] A player on the viol.
- VIOLOCE'LLO. *n. f.* [Italian.] A stringed instrument of music.
- VIPER. *n. f.* [*vipera*, Lat.]
1. A serpent of that species which brings its young alive, of which most are poisonous.
A viper came out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. *Acts xxviii. 3.*
He'll gall of asps with thirly lips suck in;
The viper's deadly teeth shall pierce his skin. *Sandys.*
Viper-catchers have a remedy, in which they place such great confidence, as to be no more afraid of the bite of a viper, than of a common puncture. This is no other than axungia viperina, presently rubbed into the wound. *Derham.*
2. Any thing mischievous.
Where is this viper,
That would depopulate the city, and
Be every man himself? *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
- VIPERINE. *n. f.* [*viperinus*, Lat.] Belonging to a viper.
- VIPEROUS. *adj.* [*viperous*, Lat. from *viper*.] Having the qualities of a viper.
My tender years can tell,
Civil dissention is a viperous worm,
That gnaws the bowels of the commonwealth. *Shakefp.*
We are peremptory to dispatch
This viperous traitor. *Shakefp.*
Some viperous critick may berave
Th' opinion of thy worth for some defect. *Daniel's Musaph.*
- VIPER'S BUGLOSS. *n. f.* [*echium*, Lat.] A plant.
The characters are, the cup of the flower is large, and divided into five long slender segments; the flower consists of one leaf, is shaped like a funnel, and somewhat inflected, having its upper part stretched, but in a greater length than the lower: the upper part, or galea of the flower, is divided into two; and the lower part, or beard, into three parts: in the middle of the flower are produced five stamina (or threads) which are reflexed. Each flower is succeeded by four seeds, which are in form of a viper's head. *Miller.*
- VIPER'S GRASS. *n. f.* [*scorzonera*, Lat.] A plant.
It hath a semi-flosculous flower, consisting of many half florets, which rest upon the embryos, which are included in one common empalement, which is scaly: the embryos afterwards become oblong seeds, which are furnished with down. *Miller.*
- VIRAGO. *n. f.* [Latin.]
1. A female warrior; a woman with the qualities of a man.
Melpomene represented like a virago or manly lady, with a majestic and grave countenance. *Peacham.*

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- To arms! to arms! the fierce virago cries,
And swift as lightning to the combat flies. *Pope.*
2. It is commonly used in detestation for an impudent turbulent woman.
VIR'ELAY. *n. f.* [*voirelay*, *voirelay*, Fr.] A sort of little ancient French poem, that consisted only of two rhymes and short verses, with strops. *L'Acad.*
The mournful muse in mirth now lift ne mask,
As she was wont in youth and summer days;
But if thou algate lull like *voirelay*,
And looser songs of love to undenong. *Spenser.*
The band of flutes began to play,
To which a lady sung a *voirelay*:
And still at every close she would repeat
The burden of the song, the daily is so sweet. *Dryden.*- VIR'ENT. *adj.* [*virens*, Lat.] Green; not faded.
In these, yet fresh and virgents, they carve out the figures of men and women. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- VIR'GE. *n. f.* [*virga*, Lat. better *verge*, from *verge*, French.] A dean's mace.
Suppose him now a dean compleat,
Devoutly jolling in his seat;
The silver *virge*, with decent pride,
Stuck underneath his cushion side. *Swift.*
- VIRGIN. *n. f.* [*virgo*, Fr. *virgo*, Lat.]
1. A maid; a woman unacquainted with men.
This aspect of mine hath fear'd the valiant;
The best regarded virgins of our clime
Have lov'd it too. *Shakefp.*
Senseless bauble!
Art thou a sedary for this act, and look't
So virgin-like without? *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
The damsel was very fair, and a virgin. *Gen. xxiv. 16.*
Angelo is an adulterous chief,
An hypocrite, a virgin violator.
Much less can that have any place,
At which a virgin hides her face. *Shakefp. Measure for Measure.*
- 2. A woman not a mother. Unusual. *Cowley.*
Likelt to Ceres in her prime,
Yet virgin of Proserpina from Jove. *Milton.*
- 3. Any thing untouched or unmingled.
Tapers of white wax, commonly called virgin wax, burn with less smoke than common yellow wax. *Boyle.*
I have found virgin earth in the peat-marshes of Cheshire.
Below the upper was a deep bed of sand only, which I weighed, together with the virgin-mould. *Derham.*
- 4. The sign of the zodiac in which the sun is in August.
Thence down again by Leo and the Virgin. *Milton.*
- VIRGIN. *adj.* Besitting a virgin; suitable to a virgin; maidenly.
Can you blame her then, being a maid, yet rosd over with the virgin's crimion of modesty, if she deny the appearance of a naked blind boy. *Shakefp. Hen. V.*
What says the silver with her virgin hue?
With ease a brother o'ercame
The formal decencies of virgin-shame. *Cowley.*
- To VIRGIN. *v. n.* [a cant word.] To play the virgin.
A kiss
Long as my exile, sweet as my revenge!
I carried from thee, my dear; and my true lip
Hath virgin'd it e'er since. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
- VIRGINAL. *adj.* [from *virgin*.] Maidenly; pertaining to a virgin.
On the earth more fair was never seen,
Of chastity and honour virginall. *Fairy Queen.*
Tears virginall
Shall be to me even as the dew to fire;
And beauty, that the tyrant oft reclaims,
Shall to my flaming wrath be oil and flax. *Shakefp.*
Purity is a special part of this superstructure, restraining of all desires of the flesh within the known limits of conjugal or virginall chastity. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
- To VIRGINAL. *v. n.* To pat; to strike as on the virginall.
A cant word.
Still virginalling upon thy palm. *Shakefp.*
- VIRGINAL. *n. f.* [more usually *virginals*.] A musical instrument so called, because commonly used by young ladies.
The musician hath produced two means of straining strings. The one is stopping them with the finger, as in the necks of lutes and viols; the other is the shortness of the strings, as in harps and virginals. *Bacon.*
- VIRGINITY. *n. f.* [*virginitas*, Lat.] Maidenhead; unacquaintance with man.
You do impeach your modesty too much,
To trust the opportunity of night,
And the ill counsel of a desert place,
With the rich worth of your virginity. *Shakefp.*
Natural virginity of itself is not a state more acceptable to God; but that which is chosen in order to the conveniences of religion, and separation from worldly incumbrances. *Taylor.*
- VIRILE. *n. f.* [*virilis*, Lat.] Belonging to man; not puerile; not feminine. *VIRILITY.*

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- VIRILITY. *n. f.* [*virilitas*, Fr. *virilitas*, Lat. from *virile*.]
1. Manhood; character of man.
The lady made generous advances to the borders of virility. *Rambler.*- 2. Power of procreation.
The great climacterical was past, before they begat children, or gave any testimony of their virility; for none begat children before the age of sixty-five. *Brown.*
- VIRMI'LION. *n. f.* Properly *vermilion*. A red colour.
Egle, the fairest Nais of the flood,
With a vermilion dye his temples stain'd. *Rowson.*
- VIR'TUAL. *adj.* [*virtuel*, Fr. from *virtue*.] Having the efficacy without the sensible or material part.
Metalline waters have virtual cold in them. Put therefore wood into smith's water, and try whether it will not harden.
Heat and cold have a virtual transition, without communication of substance. *Bacon.*
Love not the heav'nly spirits? And how their love
Express they? by looks only? or, do they mix
Irradiance? virtual, or immediate touch? *Milton.*
Every kind that lives,
Fomented by his virtual pow'r, and warm'd. *Milton.*
Neither an actual or virtual intention of the mind, but only that which may be gathered from the outward acts. *Stillingsfleet.*
- VIR'TU'ALITY. *n. f.* [from *virtual*.] Efficacy.
In one grain of corn there lieth dormant a virtuality of many other, and from thence sometimes proceed an hundred ears. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- VIR'TUALLY. *adv.* [from *virtual*.] In effect, though not formally.
They are virtually contained in other words still continued. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
Such is our constitution, that the bulk of the people virtually give their approbation to every thing they are bound to obey. *Addison.*
- To VIR'TUATE. *v. a.* [from *virtue*.] To make efficacious.
Potable gold should be endued with a capacity of being assimilated to the innate heat, and radical moisture; or at least virtuated with a power of generating the said essential. *Harvey.*
- VIR'TUE. *n. f.* [*virtus*, Lat.]
1. Moral goodness.
Either I'm mistaken, or there is virtue in that Falstaff. *Shakefp.*
If there's a power above us,
And that there is, all nature cries aloud
Through all her works, he must delight in virtue,
And that which he delights in must be happy. *Addison.*
Virtue only makes our bliss below.
The character of prince Henry is improved by Shakefp. and through the veil of his vices and irregularities, we see a dawn of greatness and virtue. *Shakefp. illustrated.*
- 2. A particular moral excellence.
In Belmont is a lady,
And she is fair, and fairer than that word,
Of wondrous virtues. *Shakefp. Merchant of Venice.*
Remember all his virtues,
And shew mankind that goodness is your care. *Addison.*
- 3. Medicinal quality.
All blest secrets,
All you unpublisch'd virtues of the earth,
Be aidant and remediate. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*
The virtuous bezoar is taken from the beast that feedeth upon the mountains; and that without virtue from those that feed in the valleys. *Bacon.*
- 4. Medicinal efficacy.
An essay writer must practise the chymical method, and give the virtue of a full draught in a few drops. *Addison.*
- 5. Efficacy; power.
If neither words, nor herbs will do, I'll try stones; for there's a virtue in them. *L'Estrange.*
Where there is a full purpose to please God, there, what a man can do, shall, by virtue thereof, be accepted. *South.*
They are not sure, by virtue of syllogism, that the conclusion certainly follows from the premises. *Locke.*
This they shall attain, partly in virtue of the promise made by God; and partly in virtue of piety. *Auerbury.*
He used to travel through Greece, by virtue of this fable, which procured him reception in all the towns. *Addison.*
- 6. Acting power.
Jesus knowing that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about. *Mark v. 30.*
- 7. Secret agency; efficacy, without visible or material action.
She moves the body, which the doth possels;
Yet no part toucheth, but by virtue's touch. *Davies.*
- 8. Bravery; valour.
Trust to thy single virtue; for thy soldiers
Took their discharge. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*
The conquest of Palestine, with singular virtue they performed, and held that kingdom some few generations. *Raleigh.*
- 9. Excellence; that which gives excellence.
In the Greek poets, as also in Plautus, the economy of poems is better observed than in Terence; who thought the

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- sole grace and virtue of their fable, the sticking in of sentences, as ours do the forcing in of jests. *B. Johnson.*- 10. One of the orders of the celestial hierarchy.
Thrones, domination, principdoms, virtues, pow'rs. *Milt.*
A winged virtue through th' etherial sky,
From orb to orb unwearied dost thou fly. *Tickell.*
- VIR'TUELESS. *adj.* [from *virtue*.]
1. Wanting virtue; deprived of virtue.
2. Not having efficacy; without operating qualities.
All second causes, together with nature herself, without that operative faculty which God gave them, would become altogether silent, virtuelless, and dead. *Raleigh.*
Virtuelless the wilft all herbs and charms,
Wherewith false men increase their patients harms. *Fairfax.*
Some would make the glorious creatures virtuelless. *Hakevill.*
- VIR'TUO'SO. *n. f.* [Italian.] A man skilled in antique or natural curiosities; a man studious of painting, statuary, or architecture.
Methinks those generous virtuos dwell in a higher region than other mortals. *Glanville.*
Virtuso, the Italians call a man who loves the noble arts, and is a critick in them. And amongst our French painters, the word virtuous is understood in the same signification. *Dryd.*
This building was beheld with admiration by the virtuos of that time. *Tatler, No. 52.*
Showers of rain are now met with in every water-work; and the virtuos of France covered a little vault with artificial snow. *Addison.*
- VIR'TUOUS. *adj.* [from *virtue*.]
1. Morally good.
If his occasion were not virtuous,
I should not urge it half so faithfully. *Shakefp. As You Like It.*
Virtuous and holy, be thou conqueror.
What the wills to do or say,
Is wisest, virtuous, discreetest, best. *Milton.*
Favour'd of heav'n, who finds
One virtuous rarely found,
That in domestic good combines:
Happy that house! his way to peace is smooth. *Milton.*
- 2. [Applied to women.] Chaste.
Mistress Ford, the modest wife, the virtuous creature, that hath the jealous fool to her husband! *Shakefp.*
- 3. Done in consequence of moral goodness.
Nor love is always of a vicious kind,
But oft to virtuous acts inflames the mind. *Dryden.*
- 4. Efficacious; powerful.
With one virtuous touch, th' arch-chemic sun,
Produces, with terrestrial humour mix'd,
Here in the dark, so many precious things. *Milton.*
- 5. Having wonderful or eminent properties.
Out of his hand,
That virtuous steel he rudely snatch'd away. *Fairy Queen.*
Lifting up his virtuous staff on high,
He smote the sea, which calmed was with speed. *Spenser.*
He own'd that virtuous ring and glass. *Milton.*
- 6. Having medicinal qualities.
Some observe that there is a virtuous bezoar, and another without virtue; the virtuous is taken from the beast that feedeth where there are theriacal herbs; and that without virtue, from those that feed where no such herbs are. *Bacon.*
The ladies fought around
For virtuous herbs, which, gather'd from the ground,
They squeez'd the juice; and cooling ointment made. *Dryd.*
- VIR'TUOUSLY. *adv.* [from *virtuous*.] In a virtuous manner; according to the rules of virtue.
The Gods are my witnesses, I desire to do virtuously. *Sidney.*
In sum, they taught the world no less virtuously how to die, than they had done before how to live. *Hooker.*
They that mean virtuously, and yet do so,
The devil their virtue tempts not, they tempt heav'n. *Shak.*
Not from grey hairs authority doth flow,
Nor from bald heads, nor from a wrinkled brow;
But our past life, when virtuously spent,
Must to our age those happy fruits present. *Denham.*
The coffeeman has a little daughter four years old, who has been virtuously educated. *Addison.*
- VIR'TUOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *virtuous*.] The state or character of being virtuous.
Many other adventures are intermeddled; as the love of Britomert, and virtuousness of Belphebe; and the lasciviousness of Helenora. *Spenser.*
- VIR'ULENCE. *n. f.* [from *virulent*.] Mental poison; malignity; acrimony of temper; bitterness.
Disputes in religion are managed with virulence and bitterness. *Decay of Pity.*
It infills into their minds the utmost virulence, instead of that charity which is the perfection and ornament of religion. *Addison.*
The whigs might easily have maintained a majority among the clergy, if they had not too much encouraged this intemperance of speech, and virulence of pen, in the most profane of their party. *Swift.*